

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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***FORMER ST. CLAIR COUNTY WOMAN SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS
IMPRISONMENT FOR COMMITTING OVER \$61,000 IN WELFARE FRAUDS***

A. Courtney Cox, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on July 2, 2008, **AGNES R. DAVIS**, of Jonesboro, Arkansas, was sentenced to serve a 24 month term of imprisonment in the Federal Bureau of Prisons following her convictions for Concealment of Material Information from the Social Security Administration; Making False Statements to the Social Security Administration; Making False Statements to the United States Department of Agriculture; and Making False Statements to the Department of Veteran's Affairs.

DAVIS pleaded guilty to the charges on October 23, 2007. The offenses occurred in St. Clair County during the time period of March, 2001 through April, 2006. In a factual stipulation filed at the time of her plea, **DAVIS** admitted that, in connection with her role as representative payee for her minor child and in connection with her own receipt of benefits, she concealed her husband's presence in her household in order to obtain benefits from the Social Security Administration to which she was not entitled. **DAVIS** also admitted to filing false food stamp applications which also concealed her husband's income and presence in her household. **DAVIS** also fraudulently collected \$5,278.47 in VA benefits intended for her husband when she filled out a questionnaire which falsely advised the Department of Veterans Affairs that her husband was alive. At the time of her plea, **DAVIS** agreed to repay the food stamp program \$22,188. At the time of the guilty plea the parties advised the Court that the Social Security Administration's losses as a result of **DAVIS's** conduct were \$33,855. A formal Order of restitution is expected to be issued within the next 90 days. Following release from imprisonment, **DAVIS** will be on supervised release for three years and she will be required to make restitution payments to the agencies she defrauded.

The case was investigated by the Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General; Illinois Healthcare and Family Services, Office of Inspector General, Bureau of Investigations; and the Department of Veteran's Affairs, Office of Inspector General. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Suzanne M. Garrison.